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this person is the present bishop of Orleans. However the book is not lacking in fine qualities both of style and diction that will readily recommend it to the most critical of readers.

A final remark we must make is this. The title of this new book reads "*Sainte Jeanne d' Arc*," and therefore one would naturally expect to find a chapter or a few pages at least devoted to the discussion of the latest event touching Joan of Arc: viz: her canonization. This is an event that has stirred the whole Catholic world and the fact that it came five hundred years after the death of Joan would naturally call for some explanation or short notice regarding it. The author has neglected to do this, and instead has dismissed the subject in one line in his Epilogue. The majority of his readers will be persons who had not the happy privilege of attending this magnificent ceremony, and only a select few are acquainted with the events that led up to it. This however is the crowning factor of Joan's whole life; the official recognition of her holiness deposed in a third and final trial—that of her canonization.

All lives of Saints end up in this fashion. Something is told of the favors received through their intercession and the reason that induced the Church to place them on her altars. No such explanation is to be found in the biography offered to the public by Father Petitot, and in this we think he has blundered.

S. RAEMERS.

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**Three Men of Judea.** John, Jesus, and Paul. By Henry S. Stix. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co., Pp. 101.

This book would be ridiculous did it not deal with such serious subjects. As it is, it is pathetic. The author is quoted in the cover advertisement, as having written to the publishers: "It is not written for scholars, but for those honest and simple-minded folk who have never read their Bible." He is right. The least sign of scholarship or the most superficial acquaintance with the Bible disposes of its theories as the sun scatters the hoar-frost.

The whole theme is a rehash of the venomous rationalism of a quarter of a century ago, now thoroughly discredited even among unbelievers. The author accepts the myth of a Buddhistic

origin of the Baptist's teachings, and makes his successor in a sort of Buddhist-Essene community Jesus of Nazareth, his cousin, for whom of course no supernatural origin or mission is admitted. The simple-minded disciples were deceived of course by the brilliancy of this Teacher and when "several years after the death of Jesus (p. 56) Saul of Tarsus comes along, it is he who revived and reincarnated the drooping cause" (p. 49) which Peter and the others had "built on such weak and narrow lines [that it] could not long survive." (ibid.)

Everyone knows the line pursued. One wonders that at this late date it can be still set forth seriously. The book is trash, unmixed trash.

FLOYD KEELER.

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**The Life and Letters of Sister St. Francis Xavier** (Irma Le Fer de la Motte). By one of Her Sisters, Mme. Clémentine De La Corbinière. Translated from the French by The Sisters of Providence. St. Louis: B. Herder Book Co., Pp. xxix+416.

When Indiana was a foreign mission! As one thinks of the two large Dioceses in that state now, the high repute and great respect in which Catholic priests and religious are now held there, it seems scarcely possible that less than 80 years ago this was a wilderness in more ways than one, that Religious did not dare wear their habits when traveling, that the Catholic religion was all but unknown and that those who were labouring for souls under its banner were almost exclusively from France—on a real foreign mission. Among those valiant women who founded St. Mary's-of-the-Woods, was the subject of this sketch. From her first awakening of a vocation it was her desire to consecrate herself to service in America but it was only after a long series of trials that she was allowed to see the fulfilment of her wish. Coming from a family where prayer and sacrifice for God were the order of the day, we are not so much surprised to find Irma Le Fer de la Motte becoming one of the most valued and saintly members of the little band of the Sisters of Providence.

One could pick out dozens of extracts from these letters and